

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 08297 310928Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----310932Z 002121 /14

O 310813Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 465

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 8297

EXDIS

FOR HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, RP

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT MARCOS' MAJOR SPEECH ON PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN
RELATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: (A) MANILA 8280, (B) MANILA 7791

1. PRESIDENT MARCOS FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1972, AND MRS. MARCOS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MEMORY, ATTENDED THE AMERICAN SPONSORED MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES AT THE MANILA AMERICAN CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL. ALSO PRESENT WERE AFP SHIEF OF STAFF ESPINO, THE THREE SERVICE CHIEFS, UNDERSECRETARY OF DEFENSE CRISOL, AND SEVERAL HUNDRED FILIPINO, DIPLOMATIC AND AMERICAN GUESTS. FOLLOWING MY BRIEF IN REMEMBRANCE REMARKS, MARCOS DELIVERED A MAJOR STATEMENT (REF A) ON PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS, HIS "HUMAN RIGHTS SPEECH" ACCORDING TO MRS. MARCOS. THE ACCENT WAS ON COMMON PHILIPPINE AND AMERICAN VALUES AND OBJECTIVES PURSUED DIFFERENTLY OWING TO DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES. MRS. MARCOS TOLD ME SHE HOPED PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD READ THE SPEECH. IT IS AN ELOQUENT STATEMENT IN WHICH MARCOS PUSHES HIS RHETORICAL COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS ABOUT AS FAR AS HE IS PREPARED TO GO. THE EFFORT DESERVES A MEASURED, POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM US.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANILA 08297 310928Z

2. MARCOS SPEECH INCLUDES AN APPEAL FOR U.S. FOREBEARANCE AND UNDERSTANDING OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH OBTAIN IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND WHICH MAY CIRCUMSCRIBE MOVEMENT TOWARD FULL REALIZATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THUS QUOTE . . . ALTHOUGH ADMIRING THE WAYS AND THE STRENGTH OF HER (AMERICA'S) INSTITUTIONS, OTHER NATIONS LESS FORTUNATE AND LESS STRONG

ARE IN SOME WAYS DIFFERENT, EVEN IN THE ALY THEY AFFIRM THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF MAN UNQUOTE. AND QUOTE SOME OF THE THINGS WE HAVE TO DO TODAY, PARTICULARLY WHEN SEEN TO BE NEW AND UNFAMILIAR BY THOSE WHO DO NOT SHARE EITHER OUR FAITH OR OUR CONVICTION, WILL TEND TO DISTURB, EVEN THOSE WHO SYMPATHIZE WITH OUR CONDITIONS. LET NOT HASTY OR IGNOBLE JUDGMENT CONDEMN. RATHER AS WE REACH OUT TO YOU FOR THE SECRET OF YOUR PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS, REACH OUT ALSO FOR THE SECRET OF OUR TORMENT. UNQUOTE. MARCOS AFFIRMS THAT THE PHILIPPINES QUOTE COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND TO THE WELFARE OF OUR PEOPLE-- IS AN IRREVOCABLE ONE UNQUOTE. HE CONCLUDES BY NOTING QUOTE OUR PATHS MAY SOMETIMES SEPARATE, BUT I AM SURE THEY SHALL CONVERGE AGAIN, FOR OUR FINAL DESTINATION IS THE SAME: THE FULL RENDERING OF HUMAN DIGNITY AND HUMAN WELFARE UNQUOTE.

3. THE MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES, PARTICULARLY PRESIDENT MARCOS' SPEECH, RECEIVED FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE IN ALL THREE MAJOR MANILA DAILIES. BULLETIN TODAY CARRIED FULL MARCOS TEST AS DID DAILY EXPRESS OF IN REMEMBRANCE REMARKS. FULL SPEECH OR EXTENSIVE EXCERPTS ALSO FEATURED ON ALL TV CHANNELS.

4. COMMENT: WHILE EVEN THE BEST OF RHETORIC IS INSUFFICIENT TO THE NEEDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE ANNUNCIATION BY PRESIDENT MARCOS ON MAY 30 OF A CONCEPTUAL BASIS FOR THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IS NOT WITHOUT HEURISTIC VALUE IN THE PHILIPPINES. ALREADY MARCOS HAS COME SOME DISTANCE IN BEGINNING TO RESPOND TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MANILA 08297 310928Z

CHALLENGE OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION. OUR TASK, AS I SEE IT, IS TO NUDGE HIM ALONG FROM WORDS TO DEEDS, FROM GESTURES TO REFORMS ALONG THE LINES OF THE STRATEGY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS SUGGESTS IN REF B. ALSO WE UNDERSTAND ON GOOD AUTHORITY THAT MARCOS INTENDED HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE THIS YEAR TO INDICATE TO THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION THAT THE GOP WISHES TO RESTORE THE "ZTRADITIONAL FILIPINO-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP" OF PRE-MARTIAL LAW YEARS, AND TO EXPRESS APPROVAL FOR RECENT ATTEMPTS OF THE EMBASSY TO ESTABLISH A CLOSER DIALOGUE WITH THE GOP AND TO REMOVE IRRITANTS FROM US-PHILIPPINE RELATIONS (FIELD NO. FPM 10,288, MAY 26).

5. ACCORDINGLY, SOMETHING IN THE WAY OF A RESPONSE FROM OUR SIDE MIGHT BE CONSIDERED, PERHAPS AN ENCOURAGING MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY, AS THE PERSONAGE WHO DELIVERED THE MAJOR HUMAN RIGHTS SPEECH AT GEORGIA LAW SCHOOL TO WHICH PRESIDENT MARCOS' STATEMENT MAY WELL BE CONSIDERED A REPLY. THE MESSAGE MIGHT USEFULLY LOOK AHEAD TO INCREASING

PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN
RIGHTS TO BENEFITTING OUR MUTUAL RELATIONS AND MOST
ESPECIALLY TO PROMOTING CONCRETE HUMAN RIGHTS AT HOME AND
ABROAD.
STULL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, SPEECHES, MEMORIAL DAY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MANILA08297
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770192-1190
Format: TEL
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977053/aaaaacas.tel
Line Count: 121
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 18cc428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 MANILA 8280, 77 MANILA 7791
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2413833
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT MARCOS\ MAJOR SPEECH ON PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS
TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, RP, US, (MARCOS, FERDINAND)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/18cc428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009